AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Original) An apparatus for default encryption of content for distribution, comprising:

a conditional access system;

a conditional access management system that communicates with and manages the conditional access system; and

a memory storing default encryption information for use by the conditional access system to encrypt certain content upon a communication failure between the conditional access system and the conditional access management system.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the default encryption information comprises default encryption keys.

3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the default encryption keys are unique for each of a plurality of channels.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a control computer that initializes the configuration memory with the default encryption information.

5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the configuration memory comprises a non-volatile memory.

6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the content is encrypted with the default encryption information if a communication failure occurs between the conditional access management system and the conditional access system.

7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the content is encrypted with the default encryption information if communication cannot be established between the conditional access management system and the conditional access system.

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8. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the conditional access system provides selective encryption of the content.

9. (Original) An apparatus for default encryption, comprising:

a conditional access system;

means for distributing content in the conditional access system;

means for managing the conditional access system;

means for communicating between the managing means and the distributing means;

means for storing default encryption information for the conditional access system for use by the conditional access system to encrypt certain content upon a communication failure between the conditional access system and the conditional access management system; and

means for configuring the storing means with the default encryption information.

10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the default encryption information comprises default encryption keys.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the default encryption keys are unique for each of a plurality of channels.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the storing means comprises a non-volatile memory.

13. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the content is encrypted with the default encryption information if a communication failure occurs between the management means and the distributing means.

14. (Original) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the content is encrypted with the default encryption information if communication cannot be established between the management means and the distributing means.

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15. (Original) The apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the conditional access system provides selective encryption of the content.

16. (Original) A method of default encryption of content for distribution, comprising:

initializing a default configuration memory with default encryption information;

communicating with a conditional access management system to retrieve active encryption information for a conditional access system;

encrypting content for distribution with the active encryption information;

distributing the content encrypted with active encryption information;

if a communication failure occurs between the conditional access management system and the conditional access system:

reading the default encryption information from the default configuration memory;

encrypting the content with the default encryption information; and

distributing the content encrypted with the default encryption information.

17. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising:

if communication is restored between the conditional access management system and the conditional access system:

communicating with the conditional access management system to retrieve active encryption information for the conditional access system;

encrypting the content for distribution with the active encryption information; and

distributing the content encrypted with active encryption information.

18. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the default encryption information comprises default encryption keys.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the default encryption keys are unique for each

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of a plurality of channels.

20. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the default configuration memory comprises a non-volatile memory.

21. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein the encryption comprises selective encryption.

22. (Original) A computer readable medium storing instructions which, when executed on a programmed processor, carry out the process according to claim 16.

23. (Original) A method of default encryption of content for distribution, comprising:

initializing a default configuration memory with default encryption information;

attempting to communicate with a conditional access management system to retrieve active encryption information for a conditional access system;

if communication cannot be established between the conditional access management system and the conditional access system:

reading the default encryption information from the default configuration memory;

encrypting the content with the default encryption information; and

distributing the content encrypted with the default encryption information.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising:

if communication is achieved between the conditional access management system and the conditional access system:

receiving active encryption information for the content for distribution in the conditional access system;

encrypting the content with the active encryption information; and

distributing the content encrypted with active encryption information.

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25. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein the default encryption information comprises default encryption keys.

26. (Original) The method of claim 25, wherein the default encryption keys are unique for each of a plurality of channels.

27. (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein the default configuration memory comprises a non-volatile memory.

28. (Original) A computer readable medium storing instructions which, when executed on a programmed processor, carry out the process according to claim 23.

29. (Original) A method of default encryption of content for distribution, comprising:

initializing a default configuration memory with default encryption information;

communicating with a conditional access management system to retrieve active encryption information for the content for distribution in a conditional access system;

encrypting the content with the active encryption information;

distributing the content encrypted with active encryption information;

signaling all set-top boxes within the conditional access system instructing them to use the active encryption information;

if a communication failure occurs between the conditional access management system and the conditional access system:

reading the default encryption information from the default configuration memory;

encrypting the content with the default encryption information;

signaling all set-top boxes within the conditional access system instructing them to use the default encryption information; and

distributing the content encrypted with the default encryption information.

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30. (Original) The method of claim 29, further comprising:

   if communication is restored between the conditional access management system and the conditional access system:

      receiving active encryption information for the content for distribution in the conditional access system;

      encrypting the content with the active encryption information;

      signaling all set-top boxes within the conditional access system instructing them to use the active encryption information; and

      distributing the content encrypted with active encryption information.

31. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the default encryption information comprises default encryption keys.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, wherein the default encryption keys are unique for each of a plurality of channels.

33. (Original) The method of claim 29, wherein the default configuration memory comprises a non-volatile memory.

34. (Original) A computer readable medium storing instructions which, when executed on a programmed processor, carry out the process according to claim 29.

35. (Original) A method of default encryption of content for distribution, comprising:

   initializing a default configuration memory with default encryption information;

   attempting to communicate with a conditional access management system to retrieve active encryption information for the content for distribution in a conditional access system;

   if communication cannot be established between the conditional access management system and the conditional access system:

      reading the default encryption information from the default configuration

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memory;

encrypting the content with the default encryption information;

signaling all set-top boxes within the conditional access system instructing them to use the default encryption information; and

distributing the content encrypted with the default encryption information.

36. (Original) The method of claim 35, further comprising:

if communication is achieved between the conditional access management system and the conditional access system:

receiving active encryption information for the content for distribution in the conditional access system;

encrypting the content with the active encryption information;

signaling all set-top boxes within the conditional access system instructing them to use the active encryption information; and

distributing the content encrypted with active encryption information.

37. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein the default encryption information comprises default encryption keys.

38. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein the default encryption keys are unique for each of a plurality of channels.

39. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein the default configuration memory comprises a non-volatile memory.

40. (Original) A computer readable medium storing instructions which, when executed on a programmed processor, carry out the process according to claim 35.

41. (Currently Amended)   An apparatus for default decryption of content, comprising:

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a conditional access system; and

a configuration memory ~~capable of~~ storing default decryption information for the content for use to decrypt the content when the conditional access system receives signaling instructing it to use the default decryption information.

42. (Original) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the default decryption information comprises default decryption keys.

43. (Original) The apparatus of claim 42, wherein the default decryption keys are unique for each of a plurality of channels.

44. (Original) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein, when signaled to initialize the configuration memory, the conditional access system initializes the configuration memory with default encryption information received with the signaling.

45. (Original) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the configuration memory comprises a non-volatile memory.

46. (Original) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the content is decrypted with the default decryption information upon reception of signaling instructing the conditional access system to use the default decryption information.

47. (Original) An apparatus for default decryption of content, comprising:

means for receiving content in a conditional access system;

means for receiving signaling in the conditional access system;

means for storing default decryption information for content received in the conditional access system for use to decrypt the content when the conditional access system receives signaling instructing it to use the default decryption information; and

means for configuring the storing means with the default decryption information.

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48. (Original) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the default decryption information comprises default decryption keys.

49. (Original) The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the default decryption keys are unique for each of a plurality of channels.

50. (Original) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the storing means comprises a non-volatile memory.

51. (Original) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the content is decrypted with the default decryption information upon reception of signaling instructing the conditional access system to use the default decryption information.

52. (Original) A method of default decryption of content, comprising:

receiving signaling instructing storage of default decryption information for content in a conditional access system;

receiving default decryption information for use to decrypt the content when the conditional access system receives signaling instructing it to use the default decryption information;

initializing a default configuration memory with the default decryption information;

receiving active decryption information with content in the conditional access system;

decrypting selected channels with the active decryption information;

if signaling reception instructs use of the default decryption information for the conditional access system:

reading the default decryption information for the content from the default configuration memory; and

decrypting content with the default decryption information.

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53. (Original) The method of claim 52, further comprising:

if signaling reception instructs use of active decryption information:

receiving active decryption information with the content in the conditional access system;

decrypting content with the active decryption information.

54. (Original) The method of claim 52, wherein the default decryption information comprises default decryption keys.

55. (Original) The method of claim 54, wherein the default decryption keys are unique for each of a plurality of channels.

56. (Original) The method of claim 52, wherein the default configuration memory comprises a non-volatile memory.

57. (Original) A computer readable medium storing instructions which, when executed on a programmed processor, carry out the process according to claim 52.

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